

DAILY EVERGREEN
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
7 March 1983

Former CIA agent blasts activities of spy agency

by Tim Hartley
Campus Editor

A capacity crowd in the CUB auditorium was moved last night.

Physically, they were moved to their feet in a standing ovation for John Stockwell, former Central Intelligence Agency agent and current CIA critic.

Emotionally, they may have received a harsh jolt as Stockwell conveyed the experiences of his 13 years with the agency. Those inclined to think of the U.S. as "the good guys" and the Soviet Union as "the bad guys" may have been shocked as Stockwell masterfully painted the picture the other way around.

"Let there be no doubt where I stand," Stockwell began his two-hour lecture. "I would close it down." He was talking about the CIA. He said, "My values had been raped by my leaders."

But, the former Marine Corps captain was quick to add, "If there were a just and necessary war, I would be the first to enlist."

Stockwell said the CIA was formed shortly after WWII, in order that the U.S. would not "get caught by surprise again." When he was recruited out of the Marines by the CIA, he said he saw it as a "fabulous chance to help save the world from communism."

It took 13 years of CIA assignments in Africa, Vietnam and with the top-secret National Security Council before he became too disillusioned to continue working for the agency. He has written a book titled "The Secret Wars of the CIA."

Stockwell said more than a million people have been killed worldwide in the CIA's "15,000 to 20,000 covert CIA operations over the last 35 years," compared to the 33 agents who have lost their lives "serving America" in the agency's "secret wars."



John Stockwell

"The United States has succeeded in making the Soviets the defender of the world's people" through the actions taken by the CIA over the years, Stockwell said. He cited examples in Angola, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Brazil and Cuba, to name a few, where the CIA has actually instigated violence, even war, to meet its supposed goal of "eliminating the threat of the communist anti-Christ."

Stockwell said U.S.-instigated violence such as the bombing of Cambodia, the Bay of Pigs incident in Cuba, the installation of a military junta in Brazil and mercenary armies in Angola, and the ousting and killing of Chile's Salvador Allende are examples of how the CIA has made countries "eat it because they could not strike back."

The people of these nations could not stop the actions of the world's strongest super-power, Stockwell said, but

Americans, if they knew, would have demanded a halt to such atrocities. But the CIA's "massive propaganda campaign against the American people" kept them from knowing in time to do anything.

He said more than 400 journalists have worked with the CIA, as well as more than 5,000 university professors "fingering students and building files on them." A whole wing of the CIA building in Washington, D.C. is devoted to propaganda against Americans, Stockwell said, adding the agency has published books "to provide a slanted view of the world not presented by real scholars and journalists."

Stockwell said the CIA can be called the main driving force toward a nuclear Armageddon. "The world today is like a warehouse with 52,000 kegs of dynamite (there are currently more than 52,000 nuclear bombs on Earth, he said) and gunpowder all over the floor. The U.S. is flicking matches in all directions, and offering to sell them to any maniac who wants to buy them," Stockwell said.